

## RAP

RA'NT. *n. f.* [from the verb.] High sounding language unsupported by dignity of thought.

Dryden himself, to please a fantastick age,  
Was forc'd to let his judgment stoop to rage,  
To a wild audience he conform'd his voice,  
Comply'd to custom, but not cr'd through choice;  
Deem then the people's, not the writer's sin,  
Almanzor's rage, and *raints* of Maximin. *Granville.*  
This is a stoical *rant*, without any foundation in the nature of man or reason of things. *Atterbury's Preface.*

RA'NT. *n. f.* [from *rant*.] A ranting fellow.  
RA'NT. *adj.* [this word is wantonly formed from *rant*.]  
Wild; raving; rakish. A low word.

What at years of discretion, and comport yourself at this  
*rantale* rate! *Congreve's Way of the World.*

To RA'NT. *v. n.* To run about wildly. It is a low word.  
The eldest was a termagant imperious wench; the used to  
*rantale* about the house, pinch the children, kick the ser-  
vants, and torture the cats and dogs. *Arbutnot.*

RA'NT. *n. f.* [Latin.]  
*Rantula* is a soft swelling, possessing those falivals under the  
tongue: it is made by congestion, and its progress filleth up  
the space between the jaws, and maketh a tumour externally  
under the chin. *Wisenan's Surgery.*

RA'NT. *n. f.* Crowfoot.  
*Ranunculifera* excel all flowers in the richness of their co-  
lours: of them there is a great variety. *Mortimer.*

To RAP. *v. n.* [happan, Saxon.] To strike with a quick  
smart blow.

Knock me at this gate  
And rap me well, or I'll knock your knave's pate. *Shakefp.*  
With one great peal they rap the door,  
Like footmen on a visiting day. *Prior.*

He was provoked in the spirit of magistracy, upon disco-  
vering a judge, who rapped out a great oath at his footman.  
*Addison.*

To RAP. *v. a.* [from *rapio extra se*, Lat.]  
1. To affect with rapture; to strike with extasy; to hurry out  
of himself.

These are speeches of men, not comforted with the hope  
that they desire, but rapped with admiration at the view  
of enjoyed bliss. *Hooker.*

Beholding the face of God, in admiration of so great  
excellency, they all adore him; and being rapt with the love  
of his beauty, they cleave inseparably for ever unto him. *Hook.*

What, thus rapt you? are you well?  
The government I cast upon my brother,  
And to my state grew stranger, being transported  
And rapt in secret studies. *Shakefp.*

You're rapt in some work, some dedication  
To the great lord. *Shakefp. Timon of Athens.*

I'm rapt with joy to see my Marcia's tears. *Addis. Cato.*  
It is impossible duly to consider these things, without being  
rapt into admiration of the infinite wisdom of the divine ar-  
chitect. *Cheyne's Philosophical Principles.*

Rapt into future times, the bard begun,  
A virgin shall conceive, a virgin bear a son!  
Let heav'n seize it, all at once 'tis fir'd,  
Not touch'd, but rapt; not waken'd, but inspir'd. *Pope.*

2. To snatch away.  
He leaves the welkin way most beaten plain,  
And rapt with whirling wheels, inflames the fkyen,  
With fire not made to burn, but fairly for to flyne. *P. 2.*

Underneath a bright sea flow'd  
Of Jasper, or of liquid pearl, whereon  
Who after came from earth, falling arriv'd  
Wasted by angels, or flew o'er the lake  
Rap'd in a chariot drawn by fiery steeds. *Milton.*

Standing on earth, not rapt above the pole. *Milton.*  
To RAP and rant. [more properly rap and rant; happan, Saxon,  
to bind, and rant, to plunder.] To seize by  
violence.

Their husbands robb'd, and made hard shifts  
To administer unto their gifts  
All they could rap and rant and pilfer,  
To scraps and ends of gold and silver. *Hadibras, p. ii.*

How comest thou to go with thy arm tied up? has old  
Lewis given thee a rap over thy fingers ends? *Arbutnot.*

RA'PACIOUS. *adj.* [rapace, Fr. rapax, Lat.] Given to plun-  
der; seizing by violence.

Well may thy Lord, appears'd,  
Redeem thee quite from death's rapacious claim. *Milton.*

On that rapacious hand for ever blaze?  
Soon heighten'd by the diamond's circling rays,  
By rapacious. *Pope.*

RA'PACIOUSLY. *adv.* [from rapacious.] By rapine; by violent  
robbery.

RA'PACIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from rapacious.] The quality of  
being rapacious.

RA'PACITY. *n. f.* [rapacitas, Lat. rapacitas, Fr. from rapax.]  
Addictedness to plunder; exercise of plunder; ravenousness.

## RAP

Any of these, without regarding the pains of churchmen,  
grudge them those small remains of ancient piety, which the  
rapacity of some ages has scarce left to the church. *Sprat.*

RAPE. *n. f.* [rapt, Fr. rapax, Latin.]  
1. Violent defforation of chastity.

You are both decypher'd  
For villains mark'd with rape. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*

Rape call you it, to seize my own,  
My true betroth'd love. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*

The parliament conceived, that the obtaining of women by  
force into possession, howsoever afterwards assent might follow  
by allurements, was but a rape drawn forth in length, because  
the first force drew on all the rest. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

Witness that night  
In Gibeah, when the hospitable door  
Expos'd a matron, to avoid worse rape. *Milton.*

The haughty fair,  
Who not the rape ev'n of a god could bear.  
Tell Thracian tyrant's altar'd shape,  
And dire revenge of Philomela's rape. *Roscommon.*

3. Privation; act of taking away.  
Pear grew after pear,  
Fig after fig came; time made never rape.  
Of any dainty there. *Chapman's Odyssey.*

4. Something snatched away.  
Sad widows by thee rapt, weep in vain,  
And ruin'd orphans of thy rapes complain. *Sandys.*

Where now are all my hopes? oh never more  
Shall they revive! nor death her rapes restore! *Sandys.*

5. The juice of grapes is drawn as well from the rape, or  
whole grapes pluck'd from the cluster, and wine pour'd upon  
them in a vessel, as from a vat, where they are bruised. *Ray.*

6. A plant, from the seed of which oil is expressed.  
RAPID. *adj.* [rapide, Fr. rapidus, Lat.] Quick; swift.  
Part shun the goal with rapid wheels. *Milton.*

While you so smoothly turn and rowl our sphere,  
That rapid motion does but rest appear. *Dryden.*

RA'PIDITY. *n. f.* [rapiditas, Fr. rapidus, from rapidus, Lat.]  
Celerity; velocity; swiftness.

Where the words are not monosyllables, we make them so  
by our rapidity of pronunciation. *Addison's Spectator.*

RA'PIDLY. *adv.* [from rapid.] Swiftly; with quick motion.

RA'PIDNESS. *n. f.* [from rapid.] Celerity; swiftness.

RA'PIER. *n. f.* [rapire, Fr. to called from the quickness of its  
motion.] A small sword used only in thrusting.

I will turn thy falsehood to thy heart,  
Where it was forged, with my rapier's point. *Shakefp.*

A soldier of far inferior strength may manage a rapier or  
fire-arms so expertly, as to be an overmatch for his adver-  
sary. *Pope's Essay on Homer's Battle.*

RAPIER-FISH. *n. f.*  
The rapier-fish, called xiphias, grows sometimes to the  
length of five yards: the sword, which grows level from the  
snout of the fish, is here about a yard long, at the basis four  
inches over, two-edged, and pointed exactly like a rapier:  
he preys on fishes, having first stabbed them with this  
sword. *Grew's Museum.*

RA'PINE. *n. f.* [rapina, Lat. rapine, Fr.]  
1. The act of plundering.

If the poverty of Scotland might, yet the plenty of Eng-  
land cannot, excuse the envy and rapine of the church's  
rights. *King Charles.*

The logick of a conquering sword may silence, but con-  
vince it cannot; its efficacy rather breeds averfion and abhor-  
rence of that religion, whose first address is in blood and  
rapine. *Decay of Piety.*

2. Violence; force.  
Her least action overaw'd  
His malice, and with rapine sweet bereav'd  
His fierceness of its fierce intent. *Milton.*

RA'PPER. *n. f.* [from rap.] One who strikes.

RA'PPORT. *n. f.* [rapport, Fr.] Relation; reference; propor-  
tion. A word introduced by the innovator, Temple, but not  
copied by others.

'Tis obvious what rapport there is between the conceptions  
and languages in every country, and how great a difference  
this must make in the excellence of books. *Temple.*

To RAP. *v. n.* [this word is used by Chapman for rap impro-  
perly, as appears from the participle, which from rap would  
be not rapt, but rapted.] To ravish; to put in ecstacy.

You may safe approve,  
How strong in infatigation to their love  
Their raptures tunes are. *Chapman's Odyssey.*

RA'PT. *n. f.* [from rap.] A trance; an ecstacy.

RA'PTURE. *n. f.*  
1. Ecstacy; transport; violence of any pleasing passion; en-  
thusiasm; uncommon heat of imagination.

Musick, when thus applied, raises in the mind of the hearer  
great conceptions; it strengthens devotion, and advances  
praise into rapture. *Addison's Spectator, N° 406.*

You grow correct, that once with rapture writ. *Pope.*

## RAR

2. Rapidity; haste.  
The wat'ry throng,  
Wave rowling after wave, where way they found,  
If steep, with torrent rapture; if through plain  
Soft-ebbing; not withstood them rock or hill. *Milton.*

RA'PTURED. *adj.* [from rapture.] Ravished; transported.  
A bad word.

He drew  
Such madning draughts of beauty to the soul,  
As for a while cancell'd his raptur'd thought  
With luxury too daring. *Thomson's Summer.*

RA'PTUROUS. *adj.* [from rapture.] Ecstasick; transporting.  
Are the pleasures of it so inviting and rapturous? is a man  
bound to look out sharp to plague himself? *Collier.*

RARE. *adj.* [rarus, Lat. rare, Fr. in all the senses but the  
last.]

1. Scarce; uncommon.  
Live to be the show, and gaze o' th' time;  
We'll have you, as our rare moulters are, *Shakefp.*

2. Excellent; incomparable; valuable to a degree seldom found.  
This jealousy  
Is for a precious creature; as the's rare,  
Must it be great, and as his person's mighty. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*

On which was wrought the gods and giants fight,  
Rare work, all fill'd with terror and delight. *Cowley.*

Above the rest I judge one beauty rare. *Dryden.*

3. Thinly feathered.  
The cattle in the fields and meadows green  
Thofe rare and solitary, these in flocks  
Patturing at once, and in broad herds upspring. *Milton.*

4. Thin; subtle; not dense.  
They are of so tender and weak a nature, as they affect  
only such a rare and attenuate substance, as the spirit of living  
creatures. *Bacon's Natural History.*

So eagerly the fiend  
O'er bog or steep, through strait, rough, dense, or rare,  
With head, hands, wings, or feet, pursues his way. *Milt.*

The dense and bright light of the circle will obscure the  
rare and weak light of these dark colours round about it, and  
render them almost insensible. *Newton's Opticks.*

Bodies are much more rare and porous than is commonly  
believed: water is nineteen times lighter, and by consequence  
nineteen times rarer than gold, and gold is so rare, as very  
readily, and without the least opposition, to transmit the  
magnetic effluvia, and easily to admit quicksilver into its  
pores, and to let water pass through it. *Newton's Opticks.*

5. Raw; not fully subdued by the fire. This is often pro-  
nounced rare.

New-laid eggs, with Baucis' busy care,  
Turn'd by a gentle fire, and roasted rare. *Dryden.*

RA'RESHOW. *n. f.* [this word is formed in imitation of the  
foreign way of pronouncing rare show.] A show carried in a  
box.

The fashions of the town affect us just like a rareshow, we  
have the curiosity to peep at them, and nothing more. *Pope.*

Of rarefactions he sung, and Punch's feats. *Gog.*

RA'REFACTION. *n. f.* [rarefactio, Fr. from rarefy.] Exten-  
sion of the parts of a body, that makes it take up more room  
than it did before; contrary to condensation.

The water within being rarefied, and by rarefaction resolved  
into wind, will force up the smoke. *Hutton's Architecture.*

When exhalations, shut up in the caverns of the earth by  
rarefaction or compression, come to be strained, they strive  
every way to set themselves at liberty. *Burnet.*

RA'REFIABLE. *adj.* [from rarefy.] Admitting rarefaction.

To RA'REFY. *v. a.* [rarefier, Fr. rarus and factis, Lat. rarefy  
were more proper.] To make thin: contrary to condense.

To the hot equator crowding fast,  
Where highly rarefied the yielding air  
Admits their steam. *Thomson.*

Earth rarefy to dew; expanded more  
The subtil dew in air begins to soar. *Dryden's Fables.*

RA'RELY. *adv.* [from rare.] Seldom; not often; not frequently.

Rarely they rise by virtue's aid, who lie  
Plung'd in the depth of helpless poverty. *Dryden's Juven.*

Advanc'd like Atalanta's star,  
But rarely seen, and seen from far. *Swift's Miscellanies.*

How rarely does it meet with this time's guise,  
When man was will'd to love his enemies. *Shakefp.*

RA'RENESS. *n. f.* [from rare.]

1. Uncommonness; state of happening seldom; infrequency.

Tickling is most in the soles, arm-holes and sides: the  
cause is the thinness of the skin, joined with the rareness of  
being touched there; for tickling is a light motion of the spi-  
rits, which the thinness of the skin, the suddenness and rare-  
ness of touch doth further. *Bacon.*

## RAS

For the rareness and rare effect of that petition, I'll insert  
it as presented. *Clarendon.*

Of my heart I now a present make;  
Accept it as when early fruit we fend,  
And let the rareness the small gift commend. *Dryden.*

2. Value arising from scarcity.  
Roses set in a pool, supported with some stay, is matter of  
rareness and pleasure, though of small use. *Bacon.*

To worthiest things,  
Virtue, art, beauty, fortune, now I see  
Rareness or use, not nature, value brings. *Donne.*

RA'RITY. *n. f.* [raritas, Fr. raritas, Lat.]

1. Uncommonness; infrequency.  
So far from being fond of any one for its rarity, if I meet  
with any in a field which pleases me, I give it a place in my  
garden. *Spectator.*

2. A thing valued for its scarcity.  
Sorrow would be a rarity most belov'd,  
If all could so become it. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

It would be a rarity worth the seeing, could any one shew  
us such a thing as a perfectly reconciled enemy. *South.*

I saw three rarities of different kinds, which pleased me  
more than any other shows of the place. *Addison.*

3. Thinness; subtlety; the contrary to density.

Bodies, under the same outward bulk, have a greater thin-  
ness and expansion, or thickness and solidity, which terms, in  
English, do not signify fully those differences of quantity; there-  
fore I will do it under the names of rarity and density. *Digby.*

This I do, not to draw any argument against them from  
the universal rest or accurately equal diffusion of matter, but  
only that I may better demonstrate the great rarity and tenuity  
of their imaginary chaos. *Bentley's Sermons.*

RA'SCAL. *n. f.* [rascal, Saxon, a lean beast.] A mean fel-  
low; a scoundrel; a sorry wretch.

For the rascal commons, left he cared.  
And when him list the rascal routs appeal,  
Men into stones therewith he could translew. *Fa. Queen.*

When Marcus Brutus grows so covetous  
To lock such rascal counters from his friends:  
Be ready, gods, with all your thunder-bolts,  
Dash him to pieces. *Shakefp. Julius Caesar.*

The rascal people, thirsting after prey,  
Join with the traitor. *Shakefp. Henry VI. p. ii.*

But for our gentlemen,  
The mouse ne'er than'd the cat, as they did budge  
From rascals worse than they. *Shakefp.*

I am accus'd to rob in that thief's company; the rascal hath  
remov'd my horse. *Shakefp. Henry IV. p. i.*

Scoundrels are insolent to their superiors; but it does not  
become a man of honour to contest with mean rascals. *L'Estr.*

Did I not see you, rascal, did I not!  
When you lay inug to snap young Damon's goat? *Dryden.*

I have sense, to serve my turn, in store.  
And he's a rascal who pretends to more. *Dryden's Persius.*

The poor girl provoked told him he lyed like a rascal. *Sw.*

RASCA'LION. *n. f.* [from rascal.] One of the lowest people.

That proud dame  
Us'd him for like a base rascalion,  
That old pig—what d'ye call him—malion,  
That cut his mistress out of stone,  
Had not so hard a hearted one. *Hadibras, p. i.*

RA'SCALITY. *n. f.* [from rascal.] The low mean people.

Pretended philosophers judge as ignorantly in their way,  
as the rascality in theirs. *Granville's Scops.*

Jeroboam having procured his people gods, the next thing  
was to provide priests; hereupon, to the calves he adds a  
commission, for the approving, trying and admitting the ras-  
cality and lowest of the people to minister in that service. *South.*

RA'SCALLY. *adj.* [from rascal.] Mean; worthless.

Would'st thou not be glad to have the niggardly rascally  
sheep-biter come by some notable shame. *Shakefp.*

Our rascally porter is fallen fast asleep with the black cloth  
and fconces, or we might have been tacking up by this  
time. *Swift.*

To RASE. *v. a.* [this word is written rase or raze: I would  
write rase, when it signifies to strike slightly, perstringere; and  
raze, when it signifies to ruin, delere; raser, Fr. raser, Lat.]

1. To skim; to strike on the surface.  
He certifies your lordships, that this night  
He dreamt the boar had ras'd off his helm. *Shakefp.*

Was he not in the nearest neighbourhood to death? and  
might not the bullet, that ras'd his cheek, have gone into  
his head. *South's Sermons.*

2. To overthrow; to destroy; to root up.  
Her battering engines bent to raze some city. *Milton.*

3. To blot out by rasure; to erase.  
Though of their names in heav'nly records now  
Be no memorial, blotted out and ras'd. *Milton.*

RASH. *adj.* [rash, Dutch.] Hasty; violent; precipitate;  
acting without caution or reflection.

This is to be bold without shame, rash without skill, full of  
words without wit. *Afchan's Schoolmaster.*